

NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND

NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER

Diving and Life Support Systems

DAHLGREN DIVISION



DAHLGREN PANAMA CITY DAM NECK

The Job

Dahlgren Division's Coastal Systems Station (COASTSYSTA) conducts fundamental research through full-scale development of underwater and surface life support equipment and systems. From deep salvage to routine hull maintenance, all aspects of diving and life support requirements are addressed. Life support products and technologies include the following:

- Carbon dioxide absorption
- Chemical oxygen generation
- Decompression techniques and applications
- Diving medicine
- Diving physiology
- Diving procedures and operation
- Diver navigation and tracking
- Diver tools
- Firefighting equipment
- Gas dynamics and chemistry
- Hyperbaric systems
- Manned and unmanned hyperbaric testing
- Nondestructive testing (NDT) equipment
- Thermal protection
- Underwater and contaminated atmospheres breathing equipment



The Team

To provide the unique blend of specialties required to develop life support equipment, COASTSYSTA's scientists and engineers work closely with the physiologists, divers, and Diving Medical Officers at the Navy Experimental Diving Unit (NEDU) and the Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center (NDSTC). The continuous exposure of these specialists to Fleet requirements and to ongoing technology development and applications at COASTSYSTA has built an unparalleled technical capability.

The scientists and engineers on this team are experts in systems engineering, mechanical engineering, ocean engineering, electronics engineering, human factors engineering, and chemistry. Many of the engineers are also Navy-qualified divers with extensive experience in fields such as life support systems, hand-held sonars, biotechnology, diving physiology, chemistry, and hazardous environment protection.



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